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The following annual reports were read and referred to the Publication Committee :—

#### REPORT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY.

With a view to supplying matters of interest for the meetings of the Academy and thereby increasing the attendance, the Committee on Instruction and Lectures has been charged with the duty of preparing an announcement of the programme for each month, postal card notices being sent accordingly to the *mémbres*. By this means the average attendance has been slightly increased from 25 to 28, the largest number being 135 and the smallest, at the midsummer meetings, being 6. The communications presented and the discussions based on them have frequently been interesting, but, except in a few cases, they were not records of the results of original investigation and were not, therefore, prepared for publication in the *Proceedings* of the Academy. The speakers during the past year were Messrs Skinner, Goldsmith, Rand, Carter, Dixon, Ferrier, Heilprin, Keeley, Woolman, Pilsbry, Chapman, Holman, Stewardson Brown, Calvert, Stone, Frazer, Sharp, Palmer, Spiller, Mills, L. Witmer, Barr, Holman, Lyman, Vaux, U. C. Smith, Willcox, Conklin, Montgomery, Chas. Morris, Harned, J. Cheston Morris, Wells, Brinton, J. Wharton James, Libbey, A. E. Brown, A. F. Witmer and Miss Keller.

Six hundred and fifty-two pages of the *Proceedings* illustrated by twenty-seven plates have been issued. Twenty-five pages of the *Journal* with one plate and a large number of text illustrations have been printed and distributed in the form of an author's edition, the entire expense of publication having been defrayed by Mr. Clarence B. Moore, the continuation of his valuable work on the southern burial mounds constituting the subject matter of the issue.

It forms the first portion of the second number of Volume XI of the *Journal*, the continuation, on which the printer is now engaged consisting of Prof. Cope's posthumous paper on the fossils of the Port Kennedy Bone Cave, to be illustrated by four plates of the remains of the new species described, and one by Mr. H. C. Mercer on the general characters of the cave, the mode of making the explorations, and his methods of preserving and recording the results, with text illustrations. These papers, it is hoped, will be distributed early the coming year.

Fifty-six papers have been presented for publication during the past year as follows:—Henry A. Pilsbry 6, Henry A. Pilsbry and E. G. Vanatta 4, Gerrit S. Miller, Jr. 5, Clarence B. Moore 4, Samuel N. Rhoads 4, Robert Baird McClain 3, John Van Denburgh 2, William J. Fox 2, Chas. S. Boyer 2, William H. Dall 2, Edw. Goldsmith 1, Francis R. Cope, Jr. 1, Philip P. Calvert 1, Edw. J. Nolan 1, John B. Smith 1, Daniel G. Brinton 1, Alvin Seal 1, T. Chalkley Palmer 1, C. M. Barber and T. D. A. Cockerell 1, E. J. Letson 1, Gary de N. Hough 1, E. G. Conklin 1, John W. Harshberger 1, David Starr Jordan and J. A. Gunn, Jr. 1, J. Percy Moore 1, C. Hart Merriam 1, Charles W. Johnson 1, Ida A. Keller 1, S. Harbert Hamilton 1, Henry C. Mercer 1, R. W. Shufeldt 1, and Witmer Stone 1.

Five of these form a portion of the *Journal* before alluded to, three were returned to the author, one was withdrawn, one is now about going to press, and one has been held over until next year. The others have been printed in the *Proceedings*. It is gratifying to find in this connection that representatives of departments of the United States Government, and of several important educational institutions including the Agricultural College of New Mexico, the Leland Stanford, Jr. University, the Smithsonian Institution and the University of Pennsylvania have found it to their advantage to avail themselves of the facilities for securing early date of publication afforded by the mode of issue and distribution of the Academy's *Proceedings*. It is earnestly urged that as soon as the Academy's means will permit, the numbers as issued be distributed free of charge to all members of the society in good standing.

The Entomological Section (Am. Entomological Society) has issued 231 pages and 11 plates of the *Entomological News*, 128 pages and 2 plates of the *Transactions*, and 202 pages of special papers.

The publications of the Conchological Section during the year have consisted of 143 pages and 27 plates of the *Manual of Conchology*. This gives a total, exclusive of the *Journal*, of 1,356 pages and 67 plates issued since Dec. 1, 1897.

The present statistics of distribution of the Academy's publications proper are as follows:—

Proceedings, mailed to subscribers . . . . .	81
“ mailed to exchanges . . . . .	100
“ sent to exchanges through the International Bureau (Smithsonian Inst.) . . . . .	444
Total,	<hr/> 625

Journals, mailed to subscribers . . . . .	34
“        mailed to exchanges . . . . .	14
“        sent to exchanges through Inter- national Bureau (Smithsonian Inst.) . .	52
Total,	<hr/> 100

The edition of the *Proceedings* is 1,000 copies, of the *Journal* 500.

The stock of the publications of the Academy had been removed in the fall of 1897 to the basement of the new building so as to make room for the office of the Executive Curator and for the growth of the library. Roomy and convenient storage cases had been provided, a new account of stock had been taken, and it was believed that this important part of the Academy's possessions was at last safely and permanently placed, with sufficient room for the additions of many years to come and without danger of being again crowded out by the growth of other departments. It was found later that the basement was not entirely free from suspicion of dampness and that the dust found its way through even comparatively air tight doors and would therefore be objectionable. These evils might have been remedied, but it was impossible to provide against the accident which has made another removal absolutely necessary.

It occurred on the third of last August in the form of the heaviest rain-fall ever known in this region. Its suddenness and volume was that of a tropical storm. Streets became rapid torrents, the fence on the south side of the Academy's premises was torn down, the excavated lot rapidly filled, with no outlet except through the basement of the new museum building, where the water in a few minutes reached a height of three feet. The publications on the lower range of shelves were soaked, and before they could be removed to the upper floors, where as rapidly as possible they were spread out to dry, they sustained further damage from the mildew consequent on the high temperature and humidity of the season. The recent illustrations by photographic processes will have to be replaced in both *Proceedings* and *Journal* as the peculiarly prepared paper has been welded by the dampness and pressure into masses of cardboard while the older lithographic plates printed on honest linen paper are comparatively uninjured. The damaged numbers have been placed in piles on the upper floors of the new museum building where they are at present safe from further injury except to some slight extent from dust; but the necessity for providing space for the entire stock of the back publications of the

Academy which will be at once permanent, safe and convenient is one that must be provided for immediately. The importance of this matter is paramount in view of the fact that the reputation of the Academy as a scientific institution depends more on the character of its publications, embodying as they do the notable work of its members during eighty-seven years of its existence, than upon the extent of its library and museum. Its publications keep it in communication with other scientific societies; they form the basis of its exchange in the intellectual markets of the world and place it on a far higher plane than that of a mere local club of naturalists.

Pending an arrangement of the damaged publications on shelves to be provided for them I have not been able to form estimate of the cost of repair. The electro-blocks of the plates which must be replaced have been preserved, so that the printing alone will have to be provided for.

Twenty-one members have been elected. The deaths of eleven members have been announced, four have been dropped and the resignations of nine have been accepted, as follows:—Julius F. Sachse, Charles P. Turnbull, Mrs. L. L. W. Wilson, Charles W. Dulles, Ellen W. Longstreth, Charles Coulter, Ruth Clement, J. Howard Breed and J. Lewis Crew. This leaves a net loss of three from the membership roll. The deaths of nine correspondents have been reported.

At the instance of the Secretary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science a committee consisting of Messrs. Meehan, McCook, Wilson, Skinner and Nolan was appointed early in the summer to secure the co-operation of the city authorities and representatives of educational establishments with a view to inviting the Association to meet in Philadelphia in 1899. The invitation was conveyed by a representative of a joint Committee but was not accepted, the place selected for the meeting being Columbus, Ohio.

The Hayden Memorial Medal was conferred, in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee on Award, on Prof. Otto Martin Torell, the Chief of the Geological Survey of Sweden.

A note of thanks was unanimously tendered to Miss Anna T. Jeanes for her munificent gift of \$20,000 the income of which is to be expended for the improvement and increase of the museum.

The President of the Academy and Mr. William Wynne Wister, Jr. have been appointed Managers on behalf of the Academy of the Wistar Institute of Anatomy under the deed of endowment.

The President was authorized to memorialize Congress for aid in the establishment of a Floating Institute as defined in a communication from the 7th International Congress of Geologists held last year in St. Petersburg.

EDWARD J. NOLAN,  
*Recording Secretary.*

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#### REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

During the past year, commencing Dec. 1, 1897, there have been received from eighty-five societies, museums, libraries, etc., one hundred and fifty-four acknowledgements of the receipt of the publications of the Academy, and from forty societies, libraries, etc., forty-nine notices that their publications have been forwarded to the Academy. Twenty-seven applications for exchange and for supply of deficiencies in sets of the Academy's publications, together with nine letters on miscellaneous subjects, fourteen circulars and invitations to the Academy to participate in Congresses or meetings, and several announcements of the deaths of scientific men have also been received and when necessary answered.

The deaths of the following correspondents have been reported :

Charles E. Beddome, of Hobart Town, Tasmania ; elected 1883, died Sept. 1, 1898.

Ernest Candèz, of Liege, Belgium ; elected 1877, died June 30, 1898.

Joseph Charles Hippolyte Crosse, of Paris, France ; elected 1867, died Aug. 7, 1898.

James Hall, of Albany, New York ; elected 1843, died August 7, 1898.

Rudolph Leuckart, of Leipzig, Germany ; elected 1884, died June, 1898.

Jules Marcou, of Cambridge, Mass. ; elected 1860, died April 17, 1898.

R. P. Montrouzier, of New Caledonia ; elected 1867, died 1898.

Osbert Salvin, of London, England ; elected 1867, died June 1, 1898.

Karl Ludwig Fridolin von Sandberger, of Wuerzburg, Germany, elected 1855, died April 11, 1898.

Six hundred and eighty-eight acknowledgements for gifts to the library and sixty-three for gifts to the museum have been forwarded.

Respectfully submitted,

BENJ. SHARP,  
*Corresponding Secretary.*